

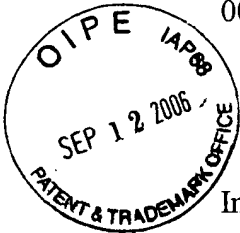
AF

IFW

3629
\$

00862.022324.

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

KENICHI SAKUMA, et al.

Application No.: 09/921,569

Filed: August 6, 2001

For: EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT
SYSTEM, EQUIPMENT
MANAGEMENT APPARATUS,
CONTROL METHOD
THEREFOR, AND
COMPUTER-READABLE
MEMORY

)
:
Examiner: Dennis William Ruhl

)
:
Group Art Unit: 3629

)
:
September 11, 2006

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of documents (1) and (2) are enclosed.

- (1) JP 10-340301
- (2) JP 11-070378

09/13/2006 MAHME1 00000104 09921569
01 FC:1806 180.00 OP

Documents (1) and (2) were cited during prosecution of a Japanese patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, which is dated June 12, 2006, is enclosed.

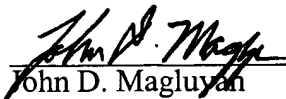
English-language translations accompany each of documents (1) and (2). The concise explanation of relevance for each of non-English language documents (1) and (2) is believed to be satisfied by the enclosed English-language translations. See MPEP § 609.

Inasmuch as this Office has received a Final Action under 37 C.F.R. § 1.113, this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). Thus, in view of the date of the Japanese Office Action, it is hereby submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that each document cited in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement. Additionally, as required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), a fee of \$180.00 accompanies this Information Disclosure Statement.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449 and returning the initialed form to Applicants with the next communication.

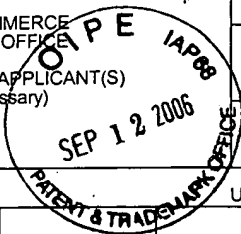
Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa,
California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to
be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,



John D. Magluyan
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No.: 56,867

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3800
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATJY DOCKET NO. 00862.022324.		APPLICATION NO. 09/921,569	
				APPLICANT KENICHI SAKUMA, et al.		FILING DATE August 6, 2001	
				GROUP 3629			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
*EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		10-340301	12/1998	Japan			Translation
		11-070378	03/1999	Japan			Translation
OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Sheet 1 of 1